

ART 34 ADPT

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## CLAIMS

1. (Amended) A workpiece retainer comprising an adhesive composition containing a pressure-sensitive adhesive and a side-chain crystallizable polymer so that the side-chain crystallizable polymer is present in an amount of about 1% to about 30% by weight based on the adhesive composition,

wherein the side-chain crystallizable polymer includes as a main component thereof an acrylic acid ester and/or methacrylic acid ester which has a straight-chain alkyl group including 16 or more carbon atoms as a side chain,

wherein the adhesive composition contains a tackifier in an amount of about 10% to about 30% by weight, and

wherein the side-chain crystallizable polymer has a molecular weight of about 2,000 to about 15,000.

2. (Amended) A workpiece retainer according to claim 1, [wherein the adhesive composition contains a tackifier in an amount of about 10% to about 30% by weight; and]

wherein adhesiveness of the adhesive composition, measured by a peeling force, is decreased by more than about 90% when heated above about 50°C, with respect to the adhesiveness when measured at 25°C.

3. [CANCELED]

4. A workpiece retainer according to claim 1,

wherein the adhesive composition exhibits sufficient tackiness with respect to a workpiece in a temperature range from room temperature to about 45°C, and is easily peeled off the workpiece above 50°C.

5. A workpiece retainer according to claim 1, wherein the

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side-chain crystallizable polymer has a melting point which occurs within a temperature range narrower than about 15°C.

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6. (Amended) A workpiece retainer comprising:

a first pressure-sensitive adhesive layer on which a workpiece is to be attached;

5 → a support formed on a back face of the first pressure-sensitive adhesive layer; and

a second pressure-sensitive adhesive layer formed on a back face of the support,

wherein the first pressure-sensitive adhesive layer comprises an adhesive composition,

10 the adhesive composition containing a pressure-sensitive adhesive and a side-chain crystallizable polymer so that the side-chain crystallizable polymer is present in an amount of about 1% to about 30% by weight based on the adhesive composition, and

15 the side-chain crystallizable polymer including as a main component thereof an acrylic acid ester and/or methacrylic acid ester which has a straight-chain alkyl group including 16 or more carbon atoms as a side chain,

20 wherein the adhesive composition contains a tackifier in an amount of about 10% to about 30% by weight, and

wherein the side-chain crystallizable polymer has a molecular weight of about 2,000 to about 15,000.

7. (Amended) A workpiece retainer according to claim 6,

25 [wherein the adhesive composition contains a tackifier in an amount of about 10% to about 30% by weight; and]

wherein adhesiveness of the adhesive composition, measured by a peeling force, is decreased by more than about 90% when heated above about 50°C, with respect to the  
30 adhesiveness when measured at 25°C.

8. [CANCELED]

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9. A workpiece retainer according to claim 6,  
wherein the adhesive composition exhibits sufficient  
tackiness with respect to a workpiece in a temperature range

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from room temperature to about 45°C, and is easily peeled off the workpiece above 50°C.

5 10. A workpiece retainer according to claim 6, wherein the side-chain crystallizable polymer has a melting point which occurs within a temperature range narrower than about 15°C.

10 11. A method for attaching/detaching a workpiece retainer according to claim 6 to/from a base plate of a polishing machine, comprising the steps of:

7 attaching the workpiece retainer to at least one of the workpiece and the base plate of the polishing machine maintained at temperature T1; and

15 detaching the workpiece from the base plate by heating the workpiece retainer at temperature T2 which is higher than temperature T1.

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